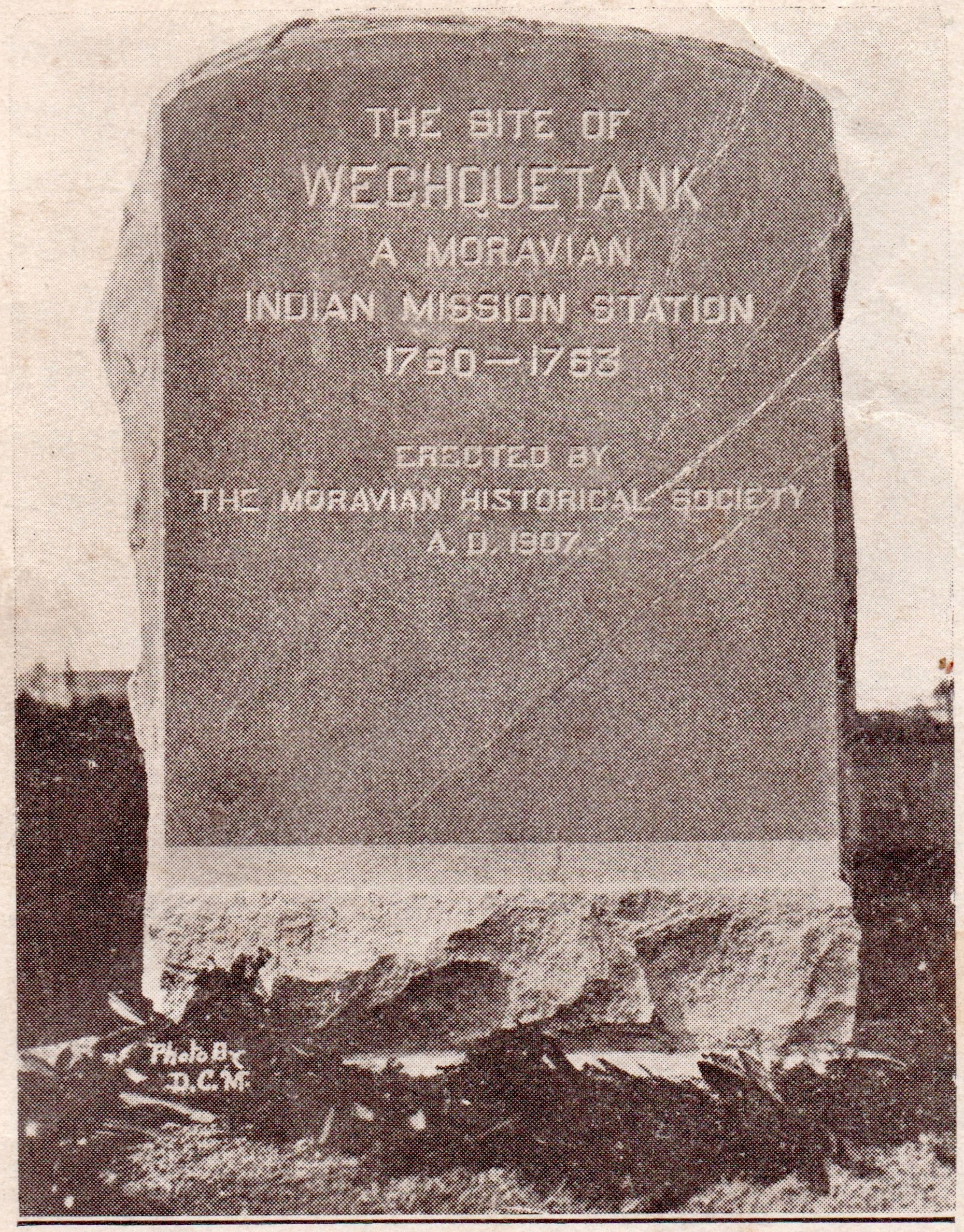
# A Voice From
# WECHQUETANK




Moravian C. E. Union

## A Voice From Wechquetank.

IN 1765 the remnant of the Indian congregation once more set foot on the historic soil in which we have placed this stone to keep WECHQUETANK in mind, but not to stay. They only halted here on the march before the white man's imperious order--"move on."

On the 9th of May they bade a last farewell to this spot, and started on a long, hard journey to the Wyoming Valley.

After a rally at Wyalusing and another station on the upper Susquehanna, the order to move on again came. In 1772 they set out on the yet longer journey to the Tuscarawas Valley in Ohio.

We will follow these no further except to say that again and again the order to



move on has come in the shape of successive enforced migrations or irresistibly adverse conditions, until now they have moved to the Pacific Coast, and nothing remains of Moravian Mission work but the present little flocks in California.

**Will Moravians let these die too?**

*—Bishop Levering's address at Wechquetank.*

## A Voice From California.

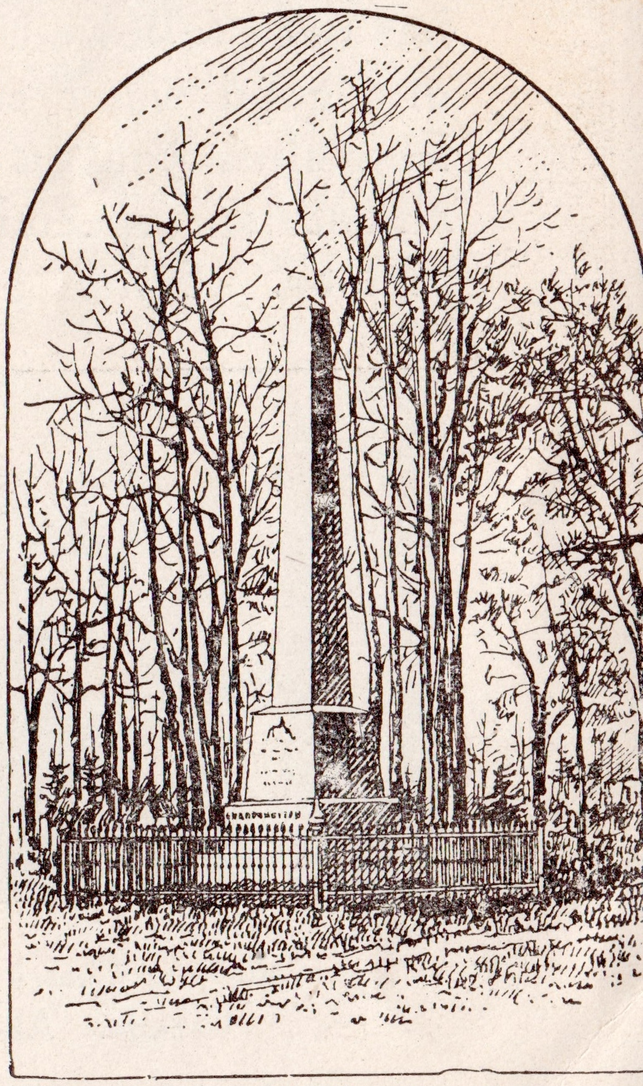
What of the future of our Indian Missions? Are the Indians amongst whom we are working dying out, or increasing? Will they always remain a charge upon the body politic, and also upon the Christian public? To these pertinent questions I answer: We have been preaching a PRESENT as well as an ETERNAL salvation, and have worked for the development of material resources as well as for growth in grace. It has been our purpose to help our Indians become industrious, self-dependent, reliable *Citizens.* We have tried to inspire each Indian with the ambition to

GNADENHUTTEN MONUMENT
Lehighton, Penna.
Those who escaped "Moved On."



build up a good paying farm. The Government gives each twenty acres of arable land with water. A portion of each farm is devoted to deciduous fruits, part to such produce as Corn and Beans, and a part to Alfalfa and Barley for Horse Feed. This year there were sold from this reservation about sixty tons of Apricots, about ten tons of Peaches, six tons of Apples and perhaps 3 tons of Raisins, all at the highest market price.

In this climate farming requires water for irrigating, and at this writing we have reason to believe that our efforts to have the Government appropriate money for an adequate water supply will be crowned with success. The next step will be the allotment of the land in severalty, resulting in each Indian owning his own farm in fee simple,---and then citizenship. The Government is

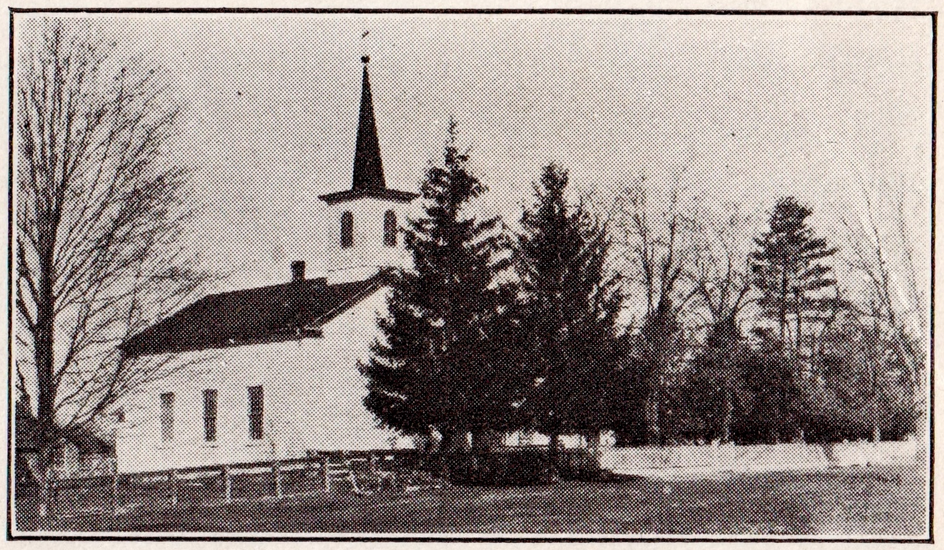


Resting piace of Christian Delaware Indians massacred at Gnadenhutten Ohio, 1781.

seeing to the educational problem. We are endeavoring to help them use this education to the best advantage.

Already it is noted that the better homes of the Indians has led, under the blessing of God, to the reduction of the death rate. Regular weekly collections are held for church causes, and the people are taught to give unto the Lord.

At Martinez this same line of work has been followed. With the securing of a good water supply great changes have already taken place. The land and climate are specially adapted to early melons. Some of our Indians have

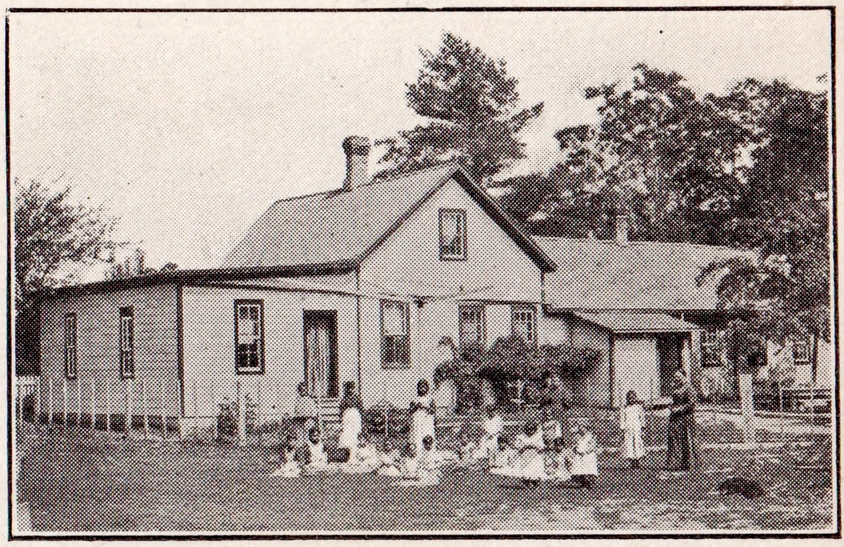


Delaware Church and Indian Mission,
Canada. Abandoned 1902.

joined the Melon Growers' Co-operative Association through which they have



sold their melons in Chicago and other Eastern cities. Better homes are springing up, the health of the Indians is better, and their ambition to do their best has been aroused.



DELAWARE INDIAN ORPHANAGE,
Newfairfield, Canada. Abandoned 1902

At Rincon, Brother Woosley's farming operations have this object also in view, that by personal industry he may stimulate the Indians to industry.

It will take time, patience, and BACKING to reach the harvest of these efforts, but, friends, let none for a moment doubt the promise: "In due season we SHALL reap if we faint not." *Gal. 6: 9.*

W. H. Weinland.

## A Visitor's Voice.

It was my privilege to spend four days, February 13th-17th, 1908, with Bro. W. H. Weinland, Superintendent of the Moravian Mission work among the Indians of Southern California, on the Morongo and Torres Reservations. On the former is situated our Potrero Mission and on the latter the Martinez Mission. On the way to the former we paid a brief call on Mr. Albert K. Smiley, the veteran member of the United States Board of Indian Commissioners, the wealthy philanthropist, who has spent the past forty years of his life in unselfish labors in behalf of the Indians. He spoke in the highest terms of

CHEROKEE MISSION,
Indian Territory. Erected 1842



Brother Weinland and his work. Testimony from such a quarter is of exceptional value.

Never having been on these Indian Reservations before, it was naturally impossible to institute comparisons as a result of previous personal observations, but none the less the impression created was, that decided progress is being made.

Bro. Weinland has been working this field for nearly nineteen years and probably understands it better than any white man around there.

Just now a very critical time has been reached. The time has come to allot to the Indians in severalty the lands now held as a tribal commune.

Missionary's House, Cherokee Mission,
Indian Territory. Abandoned 1899

Such a transition period is fraught with grave anxiety, and Brother Weinland needs our prayerful sympathy.

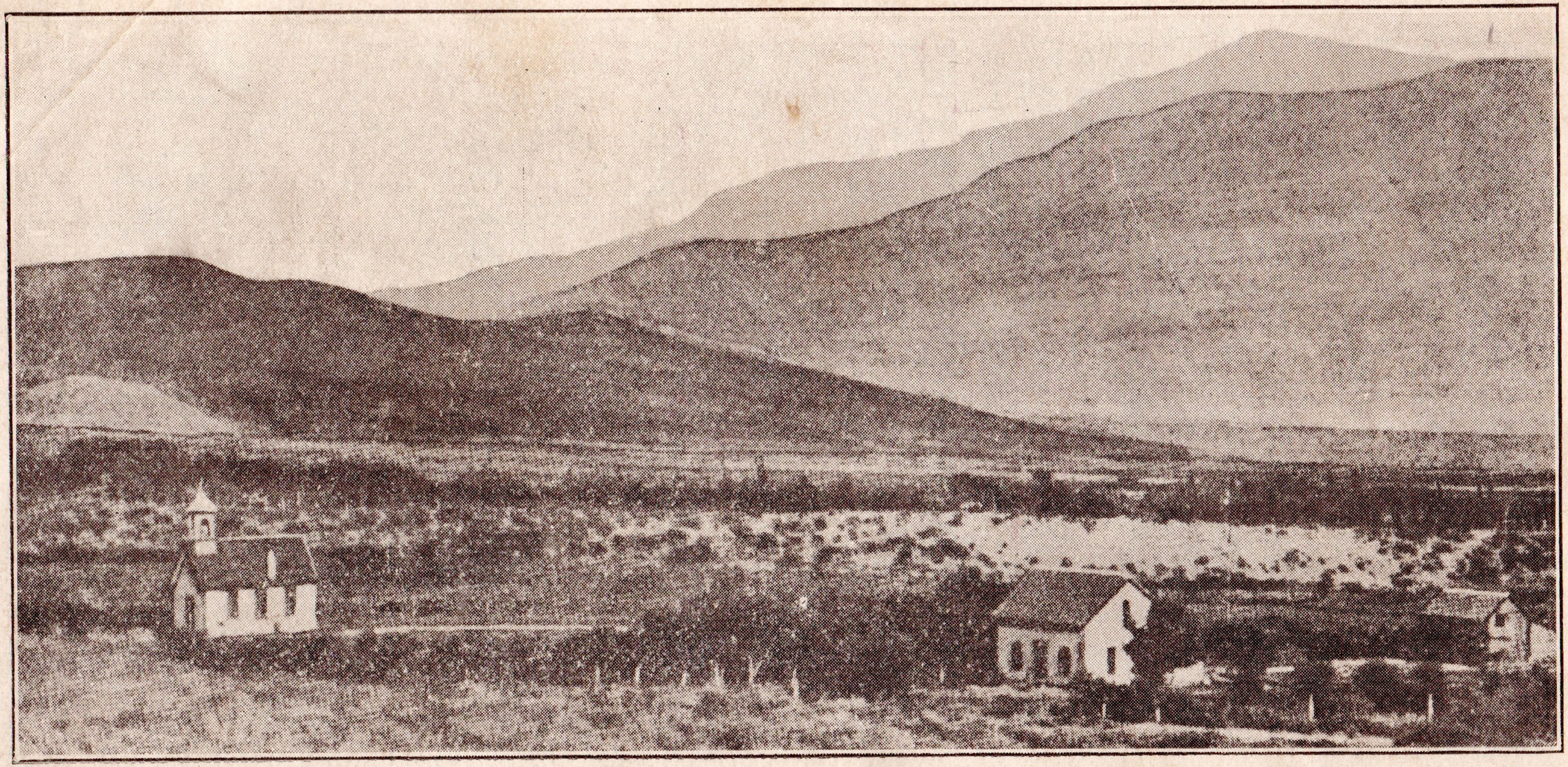
Seeing the conditions with which and under which he and his co-workers must labor, the thoughts which were most insistent in my mind were these:

They are doing a work, which most of us in the East neither would nor could do. They are laboring under conditions of great difficulty involving consistent sacrifice of comfort and ease. They have overcome by their own spiritual enthusiasm a most depressing environment. They are our representatives. We have sent them there. They are doing our work. They are worthy of our most cordial and whole-hearted support, moral, spiritual and financial.

Paul de Schweinitz.



# HOW WILL THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETIES OF THE FIRST DISTRICT ANSWER THE VOICE FROM **WECHQUETANK?**



Moravian Mission Station, Potrero, Southern California.